

Boy Scouts of America Equal Access Act

On January 8, 2002, President George W. Bush signed the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001. Part of No Child Left Behind is the [Boy Scouts of America Equal Access Act](#), Section 9525 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965, as amended by Section 901 of the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 (the Boy Scouts Act), which applies to public elementary and secondary schools, local educational agencies (LEAs), and State educational agencies (SEAs) that receive funds made available through the Department of Education. Under the Boy Scouts Act, which became effective on January 8, 2002, no such public school, LEA or SEA that provides an opportunity for one or more outside youth or community groups to meet on school premises or in school facilities before or after school hours shall deny equal access or a fair opportunity to meet to, or discriminate against, any group officially affiliated with the Boy Scouts of America, or any other youth group listed in [Title 36](#) of the United States Code as a patriotic society.

OCR is charged with enforcing the Boy Scouts of America Equal Access Act. Complaints alleging violations of this law may be filed using the OCR [online complaint form](#) or by contacting the [OCR office](#) with authority to handle complaints where the institution or entity you are complaining about is located.

- 10-13-04: [Notice of Proposed Rulemaking \(NPRM\)](#)
- 3-25-02: ["Dear Colleague" letter](#)
- 11-15-02: [Advance Notice of Proposed Rulemaking \(ANPRM\)](#)